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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **RANA CREEK WINS CONTRACT AS LEAD ECOLOGICAL DESIGNER FOR THE 5.4-ACRE ROOF HABITAT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO TRANSBAY TERMINAL CENTER**

*The winning Transbay Terminal Center and Tower design was lead by developer Hines, Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects and Peter Walker and Partners Landscape Architects. The Transbay Terminal Center will stand 70-feet-tall and stretch from Beale Street to Second Street. The structure will house commuter buses from around the area and provide the region with 5.4 acres of green space. Not only will the Terminal rooftop park be a beautiful setting, it will be an ecologically functional urban oasis, establishing a precedent for innovative 21<sup>st</sup> century urban planning.*

**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, September 2007** – Rana Creek, the California-based planning and design firm specializing in habitat restoration and regenerative design, announced their project team's victory over two competing proposals for the Transbay Terminal Center. Submitted to the board of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority to gain exclusive rights to design the new Terminal in San Francisco, Rana Creek joins an exclusive group of architects and engineers in what will be the Transbay Terminal rooftop park.

Rana Creek served as the lead ecologist throughout the competition design phase, working closely with developer Hines, Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, Peter Walker and Partners Landscape Architects and Flack & Kurtz. The company's celebrated contribution to the overall design was the integration of vegetation with architecture. What Rana Creek calls 'Living Architecture,' vegetative systems were incorporated into the project's infrastructure creating a rooftop park that will be a *living breathing organism in an urban setting*. Rana Creek's 'living architecture' staff intricately stitched together the landscape architecture with the mechanical, plumbing and civil engineering systems. Most notable was the collaborative effort with Flack & Kurtz regarding the biological air and water filtration systems for both the tower and terminal.

Paul Kephart, Executive Director of Rana Creek, understands the ecological impact the Transbay Terminal rooftop park will have on urban renewal as he adds the project to a long list of regenerative buildings, such as the California Academy of Sciences, the new Vancouver Convention Center, and GAP Headquarters in San Bruno. In fact, the Transbay Terminal will



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follow in the footsteps of Rana Creek's recent living roof projects designed to protect endangered species that have all but disappeared from our urban areas.

"Rana Creek's design will provide thriving habitats for Bay Area native plant and wildlife populations threatened by urban development as well as promote extensive water reuse for the Transbay Terminal Center," says Kephart. "Not only will this living roof provide the people of San Francisco with a much needed public park, it will also provide a large diversity of native habitat housing to most of the 27 threatened plants in San Francisco, and a sanctuary to at least eight of the 34 endangered animal species of the area."

Replicating the historic San Francisco wetlands as part of the Transbay Terminal rooftop design, freshwater wetlands will be incorporated on the north side of the terminal to address stormwater management and retention. The water in this wetland will be aerated and recirculated by a kinetic water sculpture driven by the energy of the buses on the floor below. On the south side, brackish saltmarsh wetlands will be created for greywater treatment.

The goal is to have 100 percent reuse of onsite water. Various greywater sources from the building, including air conditioning condensate, cooling tower blowdown and water from sinks will be mechanically filtered and sterilized through biological systems. These advanced systems use microbial and anaerobic bacteria with mechanical filtration to clean and distribute water throughout the buildings and main tower.

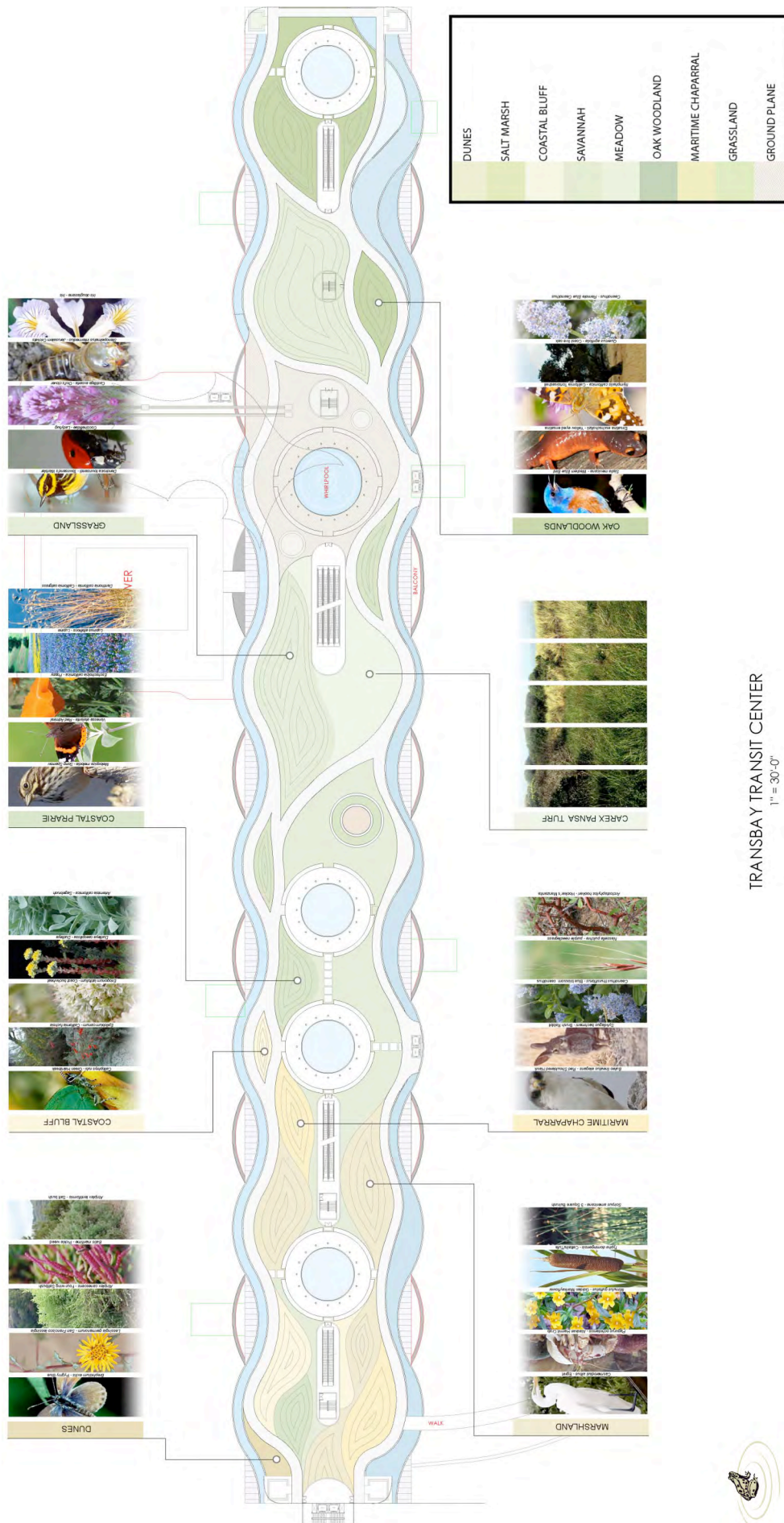
Air filtration is equally addressed in the overall design. Visitors to a bus terminal will experience clean air even in this exhaust directed terminal. The Transbay Terminal 'Breathing Wall' design includes a combined mechanical and natural treatment processes for the Bus Terminal air. Air will be collected in the terminal, vented through air plenums and pumped into living walls situated within the terminal underpasses. By flowing through growing media and vegetation, the air will be purified.

"Green roofs provide much needed green space for urban populations and allow companies to fight climate change while saving money," says Kephart. "Rana Creek has seen a tremendous growth over the past year as communities recognize the financial and environmental benefits of sustainable design. This is the time for a restorative economy."

### **About Rana Creek**

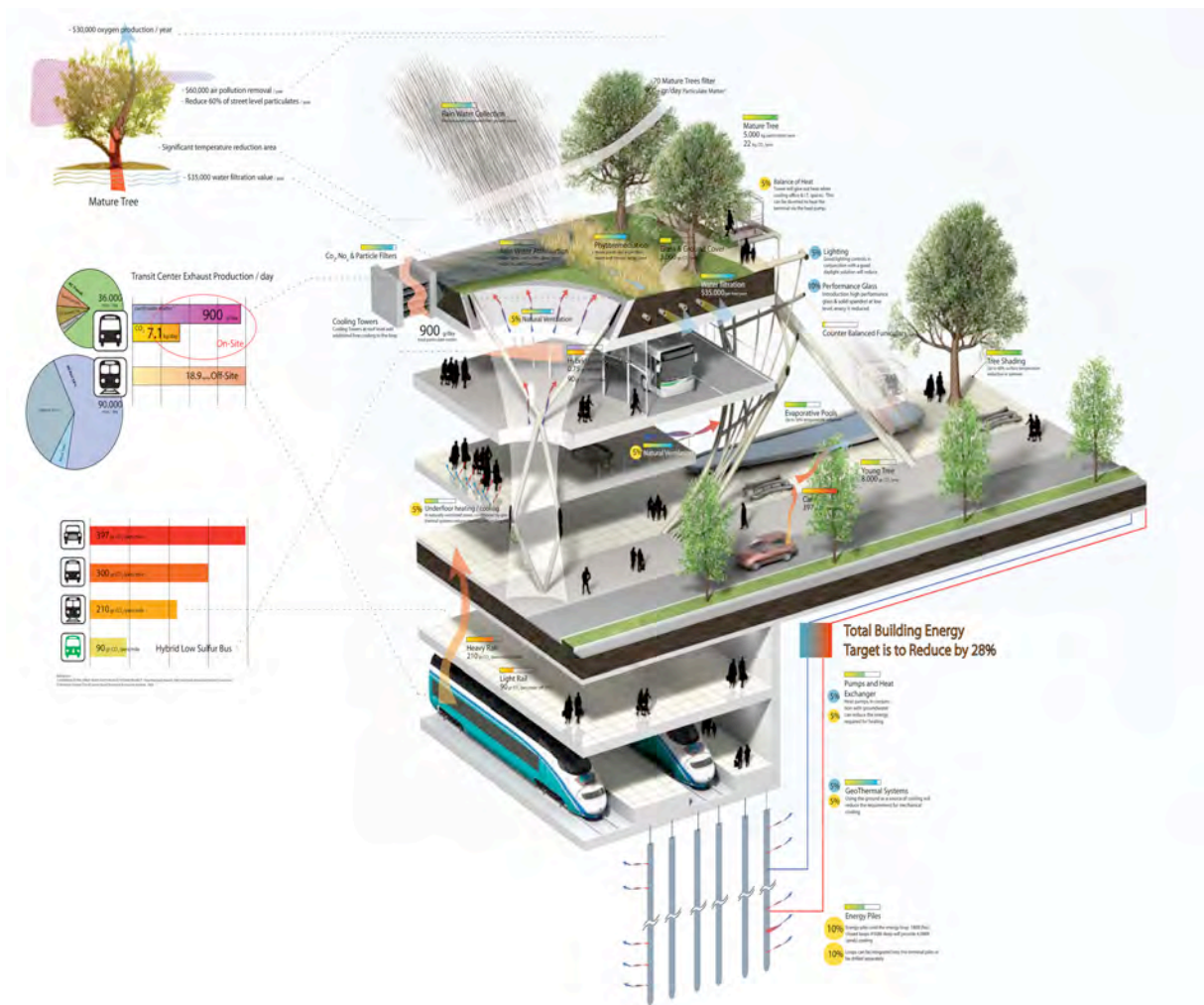
Rana Creek is a California-based company specializing in site assessment, habitat restoration and regenerative design, such as green roofs in urban environments. Founded in 1997 by Paul Kephart, the Rana Creek staff is comprised of professional ecologists, biologists, landscape designers, civil engineers, researchers, contractors, horticulturalists and habitat restoration specialists. Rana Creek was recently celebrated for their collaborative design effort with Renzo Piano Building Workshop of the 2.5-acre California Academy of Sciences' living roof in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. For more information go to [www.ranacreek.com](http://www.ranacreek.com).

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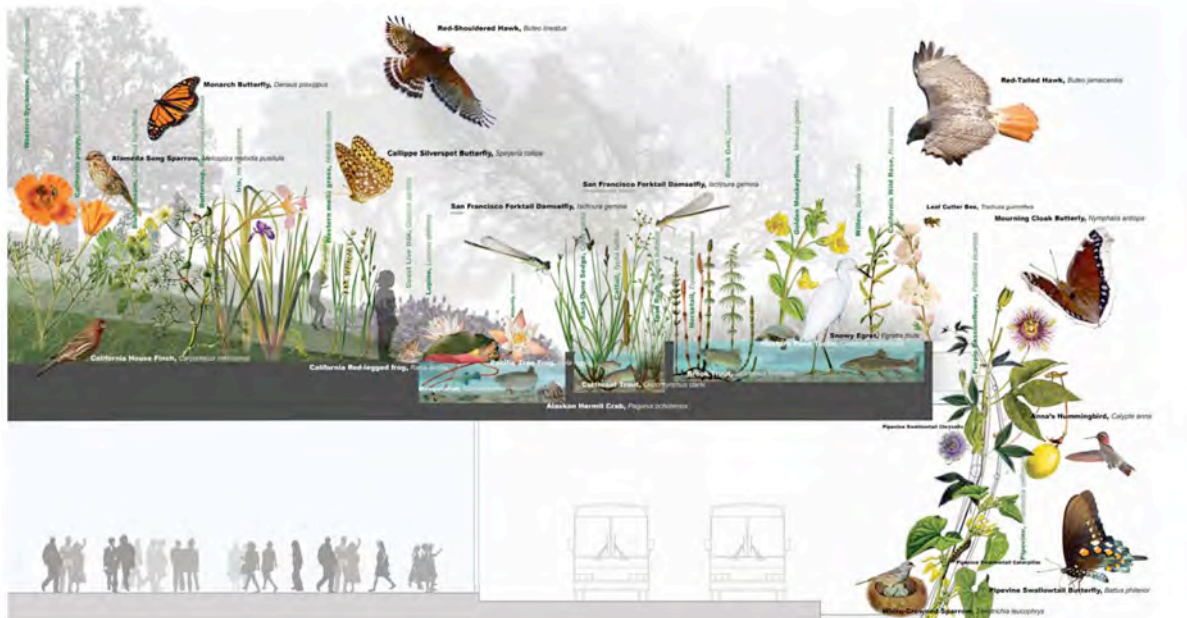


Rana Creek has taken into consideration the linear East/West axis transitions between different ecological zones within the Golden Gate Park and mirrored them in the rooftop design. The ecological mirroring will help with habitat restoration for this area. The wetlands will provide habitat for numerous species of migratory waterfowl, along with various types of insects that are essential in the food chain of San Francisco's wildlife. The areas simulating the coastal bluff will provide plant communities that are breeding ground for butterflies and hummingbirds of the region. Other ecological zones in the green roof design include savannah, oak woodland, meadow, chaparral, grassland, and redwood forest floor.





Courtesy of Hines/Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects



Courtesy of Peter Walker and Partners Landscape Architects